



## THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-1000

### A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

For two hundred and twenty five years, the U.S. Navy has promoted security and stability around the world. Together with the Marine Corps, we have been "always there... for America." We are older than the Republic itself, and we remain ready today for whatever we are asked to do - ultimately, to fight and win.

Throughout this past year our Navy has answered the call again and again, while forward deployed around the world in support of U.S. national security objectives. This is an enduring theme in our naval history. It is in large measure why we have prospered as a Nation. From the tenacious acts of our earliest naval leaders fighting for our independence, to guaranteeing unfettered access to the seas, to maritime dominance, to directly influencing events ashore, we have evolved and performed to meet the needs of our Nation.

Whatever the challenge, the central key to success has always been our amazing Sailors and Marines, together with leading-edge technology and an effective strategy. As we enter the next century, we foresee many new security challenges, and we know there will be others that we cannot foresee. The Navy's task will be to remain ready in the face of those challenges. Over the past year we have worked hard to secure that future in many ways, aiming to transform this great institution and the Sailors who will lead it.

As a result, I have every confidence that the Navy will remain "always there" for America in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Sincerely,

Richard  
Richard Danzig